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"Senator S. I. Hayakawa (R.-Calif.)", interviewed by Olujimi Ogunlana, Sept-Oct, 16
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fessed to have been hired by the Olympios to kill the President, to murder Gilchrist Olympio and his brother Bonito. (*West Africa*, October 22, 1979; *Le Monde*, October 12, 1979.)

Upper Volta

• The second party congress of the Voltaic Progressive Union (UPV), one of Upper Volta's three legal political parties, was held in early November, resulting in the **formation of a new party**, the Voltaic Progressive Front, uniting the UPV with other party factions.

Joseph Ki-Zerbo, formerly UPV leader, was elected national secretary-general of the new party, and Joseph Ouedraogo, head of a splinter wing of the ruling Voltaic Democratic Union-African Democratic Assembly, will be the party's political secretary.

Two other parties, disbanded in June 1979 when Upper Volta officially became a three-party state, also joined the new organization. (*West Africa*, November 26, 1979; *Demain l'Afrique*, November 19, 1979.)

EASTERN AFRICA

Ethiopia

• The Eritrean Liberation Front and the Eritrean People s Liberation Front claimed they won a **major victory** in late November and early December against the latest Ethiopian army offensive.

The Eritrean guerrillas, who were pushed into the mountainous northern region of the province by a series of Ethiopian offensives last year, said they had forced a 60,000-man army to retreat from three strategic positions. (New York *Times*, December 6, 1979; Kuwait news agency, December 1, 1979.)

Kenya

• President Daniel arap Moi changed his **cabinet** extensively following the November general election in which five million voters turned out of office more than 60 percent of sitting MPs, including one-third of Moi's cabinet inherited from the late Jomo Kenyatta.

In an address over Nairobi Radio, Moi said he was expanding the cabinet from 20 to 26 for "maximum efficiency." He warned that the 1980s will be "difficult years, mainly because of external forces."

Moi streamlined the government by splitting the Agriculture Ministry into two and Education into two, by enlarging the President's office to include three Ministers of State, and by creating three new cabinet posts: the Ministry of Energy, which will promote "economical use of oil" and develop solar and wind power, the Ministry of Industry and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources.

Observers noted that Moi followed a Kenyatta tradition by reappointing to the cabinet all ministers who retained their parliamentary seats. This was viewed as a gesture of conciliation toward individuals and groups who, within the single-party structure, had been in different political camps.

Among those reappointed were James Gichuru, shifted from defense to minister of state, and Dr. Munyu Waiyaki, moved from foreign affairs to energy. The President kept the defense portfolio for himself and subsequently authorized new expenditure on U.S. and British weapons.

Although the large Luo community registered a substantial protest vote by dislodging four Moi loyalists, the President moved to appease the group by naming the popular Oginga Odinga chairman of the cotton board.

Odinga and other anti-government Luo politicians, all ex-political detainees, had been barred from standing for parliament by Kenya's only political party, the Kenya African National Union (Kanu). The Luo election backlash resulted in defeat for half the Kanu hierarchy, including Kanu chairman and Moi's Minister for Power and Telecommunications Isaak Omolo Okero, who lost in a landslide to Odinga's son-in-law.

In the Kenyan tradition, Moi allotted official positions to every ethnic group and region, roughly in proportion to their numbers. At the same time he warned MPs, according to Nairobi Radio, that there is no room for tribalism in Kenya. "Anyone found to be a tribalist will be severely dealt with by Kanu," he said.

The large increase in the number of ministers and assistant ministers was regarded as a use of patronage to ensure the broadest parliamentary support for government policies. Significantly, many individuals and groups out of favor under Kenyatta were brought back into office in the new appointments. This applied notably to those who had been active in the parliamentary investigation into the murder of the populist leader and MP, J.M. Kariuki, in 1975.

Four women were elected to the 158-seat parliament. (*Economist*, December 8, 1979; *New African*, December 1979; London *Guardian*, November 6, 10 and 29, 1979.)

Mauritius

• Mauritius' **economic crisis**—industrial unrest and a critical balance of payments deficit—forced the government in October to devalue the currency by 30 percent as part of an IMF package of support.

The IMF is lending Mauritius some $97 million to bolster foreign exchange reserves which had dwindled because of the strikes to only two weeks' worth of imports. Mauritius must import all its rice, the country's staple, and it sells all its sugar, the main cash-producing product.